5th March 1965]

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—PRIVILEGE MATTER *re* ARREST AND DETENTION OF SRI M. KARUNANITHI, M.L.A.

MR. SPEAKER : I have received notice of a Privilege Motion from the hon. Member Sri S. Madhavan in regard to the arrest and detention of Sri M. Karunanithi, M.L.A., which reads as follows :—

" The Hon. Member Mr. M. Karunanithi has been arrested and detained in jail under the Defence of India Rules. The Government with mala fide intention to prevent an active member like Mr. Karunanithi from participating in the Assembly proceedings and thus to prevent him from exposing the Government's inefficient handling of the recent anti-Hindi agitation, has caused his arrest and detention. The Government maliciously detained him under the Defence of India Rules in order to take away his right to move a Court of Law and get him enlarged on bail to attend this House. This will amount to a breach of privilege of that Hon. Member to participate in the proceedings of this House ".

Sri S. Madhavan has also given a supplementary notice stating that the reasons for the arrest, and detention of Sri M. Karunanithi were not communicated to this House and that would amount to a breach of privilege.

It has been more than once decided that every Member of this House is subject to the ordinary law and if he has done anything which necessitated his arrest, he can be arrested, and such arrest will not involve any breach of privilege. Again, the arrest of a Member, in order to effect preventive detention, is lawful, and therefore, does not constitute a breach of privilege.

The only requirement is that intimation of arrest and detention of a Member must be sent to me and this has been done in this case.

Regarding the supplementary notice, in the intimation given to me by the Commissioner of Police, he has stated that under the powers conferred by clause (b) of sub-rules (1) and (4) of rule 30 of the Defence of India Rules, 1962. Mr. Karunanithi has been arrested and detained in order to prevent him from acting in any manner prejudicial to public safety and maintenance of public order. I went through this rule and found that this had been mentioned there. Therefore, the reasons have also been communicated to me. Hence, I rule that this will not constitute a breach of privilege.

III.—CALLING ATTENTION TO THE ACTION OF THE POLICE DURING THE ANTI-HINDI AGITATION.

திரு. இரா. நெடுஞ்செழியன்
திரு. மீ. கலியாணசுந்தரம் : } கனம் அவைத் தலைவர் அவர்களே, 1965-ம் ஆண்டு ஜனவரி மாதம் இறுதி வாரத்தில் பல்வேறு மாணவர் விடுதிகளைச் சேர்ந்த மாணவர்களுக்கு எதிராகவும், அண்ணாமலை நகர் பல்கலைக்கழக எல்லைக்கு உட்பட்ட இடத்திலும்

[திரு. இரா. நெடுஞ்செழியன்] [5th March 1965

போலீசாரால் எடுக்கப்பட்ட நடவடிக்கைகள், போலீசார் நடத்திய துப்பாக்கிச் சூடு; மற்றும் பொள்ளாச்சி; கோடம்பாக்கம்; குமாரபாளையம்; திருப்பூர் இன்னும் தமிழகத்தின் பல இடங்களில் இராணுவத்தினரை வரவழைத்து, இதன் விளைவாக இந்தி எதிர்ப்புப் போராட்டத்தின்போது 1965-ம் ஆண்டு பிப்ரவரி மாதத்தில் மனித உயிர்களுக்குப் பெருமளவில் நேரிட்ட இழப்பு மற்றும் போலீஸ் அலுவலர்கள் சிலரும் இறந்தது ஆகியவை குறித்தும் அவசரப் பொது முக்கியத்துவம் வாய்ந்த விஷயத்தைக் கனம் முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்களின் கவனத்திற்கு நான் கொண்டு வருகின்றேன்.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to mention the background that led to these incidents. In pursuance of the Anti-Hindi Conference held at Tiruchirappalli, students resolved to abstain from classes on the 25th January 1965 and organised processions and meetings to protest against the introduction of Hindi as the Official Language.

On 26th January 1965, there was disturbance in the Pachaiyappa's College Hostel and Venkateswara Hostel among groups of students, over the question of hoisting black flags on their premises, as a mark of protest against the introduction of Hindi as the Official Language. In Pachaiyappa's College the students, joined by anti-social elements, attacked a State Transport bus operating on the Parrys-Aminjikarai route and even assaulted passengers. In both these cases, police who were informed, rushed to the spot and restored order. But as the students of the Pachaiyappa's College did not pay heed to the requests of the Police to disperse, tear-gas had to be used. There was no incident in Victoria Hostel, requiring Police intervention.

At Madurai, on 26th January 1965, about 400 students of the Thiagarajar Engineering College attempted to hoist black flags on the road near their institution. When the Police advised them to disperse in view of the prohibitory order in force, they became violent and indulged in stone throwing. Repeated appeals by the Police requesting them to disperse had no effect. The Police then had to use tear-gas to disperse the crowd.

In Annamalai University, about 4,000 students marched in a procession carrying flaming torches, with the intention of leaving the University Campus and causing damage to property in the town. The Police who were present, advised them not to do so. Despite this, they entered the railway station and caused large-scale damage to property there. They then started attacking Police party itself. On the verge of being over-powered, the Police opened fire, resulting in the death of one student and injuries to another. The students then dispersed from the scene, only to attack the house of the Registrar of the Annamalai University, where they set fire to his personal effects, furniture, valuables, etc. At the instance of the Government, the District and Sessions Judge, Cuddalore, is conducting an enquiry into the incident.

5th March 1965] [Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam]

It will thus be seen that any action taken by the Government was only to meet the situation created by the students and to restore peace and prevent the commission of further disturbances. There was no instance where the Police used more force than was necessary.

The Students' Council, which met in Madras decided to chalk out a programme of further agitation. On the 8th February 1965, it was decided to resort to mass hunger-strike, picket post-offices on the 10th, stop trains on the 11th and organise a State-wide hartal on the 12th February 1965. With this the door was open for anti-social elements to cause large-scale unrest.

Apprehending trouble, the entire Police force was deployed throughout State. But as the Police force was spread thinly, it was feared that they would be outnumbered in the event of widespread trouble occurring simultaneously in various parts of the State. It was, therefore, decided as a measure of abundant caution, to requisition the services of the Army and they were stationed at strategic points. As anticipated in Madras City and several places all over the State, frenzied mobs attacked Railway stations, trains, State Transport buses, Post-Offices, telephones booths public offices, police stations and police personnel. The Police force was under very heavy pressure and had to open fire in nearly thirty-three places all over the State to disperse those angry crowds. About 50 persons were killed and 130 persons injured in these firings. Magisterial enquiries into all these cases of firing have been ordered and are in progress.

I would also like to inform the House of some of the brutalities that were committed with a view to giving an indication of the seriousness of the crisis that confronted the State and impress on all of you, the fact, that interested parties sought to exploit the situation to bring about anarchy throughout the State. At Tiruppur, in Coimbatore District, an angry crowd caught hold of two Sub-Inspectors of Police who had run out of ammunition and beat them severly. They then ran a loaded cart over them and when they asked for water, the crowd poured petrol in their mouths and burnt them alive. At Gudalur in Madurai District, two Police Constables were beaten to death by the crowd. At Tiruttani in Chingleput District, the crowd attacked Dr. Radhakrishnan Memorial Building which has been constructed as a Library and Cultural Centre over the ancestral house donated by the President of India. Having caused damage to the building they then set fire to most of the books available there. It is reported that some valuable books were destroyed.

The damage caused to the Railways is estimated to be over Rs. 1 crore. The extent of damage to other private and public property has not yet been estimated accurately; but is definitely colossal. What was witnessed during this period was an unprecedented scale of violence and vandalism caused by the hooligans and interested parties. Force had to be used on a number of occasions

[Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam] [5th March 1965

to restore peace and order. But for the firm and prompt action taken by the Government to quell these disturbances, the story would be different to-day and any suggestion that this was not necessary or any allegation that excessive force was used, is without substance.

I take this opportunity to record the appreciation of the Government of the magnificent way the district administration under the Collectors and the Police forces responded to the challenge, regardless of the risk to their personal safety.

I would also like to place on record the appreciation of the Government of the prompt manner in which the Army rendered assistance and of the co-operation received from them.

IV.—ANNOUNCEMENT *RE* BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

MR. SPEAKER : I have to announce the following programme of the House with regard to Voting on Demands for Grants for 1965–66, as decided in consultation with the Leaders of Parties :—

Date.	Demands.
March 1965.	
Tuesday, the 9th ..	VI State Legislature VII Elections VIII Head of State, Ministers and Head-quarters staff
Wednesday, the 10th ..	XXIV Labour including Factories
Thursday, the 11th ..	XIII Education
Friday, the 12th ..	IX District Administration and Miscellaneous XXXII Pensions XXXIII Miscellaneous XXXVI Other Miscellaneous Contributions and Assig-nments XLVI Commuted Value of Pensions XLVIII Loans and Advances by the State Government
Saturday, the 13th ..	XII Police
Monday, the 15th ..	XIV Medical XV Public Health XXXVIII Capital Outlay on Public Health
Tuesday, the 16th ..	II Motor Vehicles Act—Administration XXX Road Transport Schemes XLIV Capital Outlay on Road Transport Schemes
Wednesday, the 17th ..	XX Industries XLI Capital Outlay on Industrial Development
Thursday, the 18th ..	XXIII Community Development Projects, etc. XXIX Public Works—Grants-in-aid

5th March 1965] [Mr. Speaker]

Date. *March* 1965.		Demands.
Friday, the 19th	XXVI	Irrigation
	XLII	Capital Outlay on Irrigation
	XXVII	Public Works—Works
	XXVIII	Public Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant
	XLIII	Capital Outlay on Public Works
Saturday, the 20th	III	General Sales Tax and Other Taxes and Duties—Administration.
Monday, the 22nd	XVI	Agriculture
	XVIII	Animal Husbandry
	XXXIX	Capital Outlay on Agriculture
	XLVII	Capital Outlay on Schemes of Government Trading
Tuesday, the 23rd	V	Registration Department
	XI	Jails
	XVII	Fisheries
	XXXIV	Stationery and Printing
Wednesday, the 24th	XIX	Co-operation
	XL	Capital Outlay on Consumers Co-operatives
Thursday, the 25th	X	Administration of Justice
	XXI	Cinchona
	XXII	Khadi
	XXXV	Forest Department
	XLV	Capital Outlay on Forests
Friday, the 26th	XXV	Welfare of Scheduled Tribes, Castes and Other Backward Classes.
Saturday, the 27th	I	Land Revenue Department
	IV	Stamps—Administration
	XXXI	Famine Relief
	XXXVII	Compensation to Zamindars

V.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR 1965-66—*con t.*

* **திரு கே. ஏ. மதியழகன்:** கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இந்த ஆண்டு நிதி நிலை அறிக்கையின் மீது நடந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறபோது விவாதத்திலே கடந்த நான்கு ஆண்டுகளாக அனுபவம் பெறாத பெரும் மனத் துயரோடு, அனுதாப உணர்ச்சியோடு பங்கு கொள்ள நிற்கிறேன். நம்முடைய மாநிலத்தில் கடந்த ஜனவரி மாதம் 25-ம் தேதி துவங்கி நடைபெற்ற துயரம் மிகுந்த, நம் எல்லோருடைய நெஞ்சையும் புண்படுத்தக்கூடிய நிகழ்ச்சிகளையும், இன்றையதினம் இருக்கிற நிலைமையையும் நீங்கள் நன்றாக அறிவீர்கள். நம்முடைய மாநிலத்திலே என்றைக்குமே நிகழ்ந்திராத, கனவிலே கூட இப்படி நிகழவேண்டும் என்று எவரும் நினைக்காத கோர சம்பவங்களும், கொந்தளிப்பும், அமைதியற்ற தன்மையும் நடந்திருக்கின்றன என்பதை நீங்கள் அறிவீர்கள். இந்தச் சம்பவங்களின் காரணமாக ஏற்பட்டுள்ள உயிர்ச்சேதங்களைப் பற்றியும், பொருட்சேதங்களைப் பற்றியும் இன்றைய தினமும் சற்று நேரத்திற்கு முன்பு கனம் முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் எடுத்துரைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். நான் முதலில் கோரமான